

stone hills. Probably the snails we found are a fair sample of the fauna of all this country.

*Zonitoides minuscula alachuana* (Dall). One specimen.

*Vallonia cyclophorella* Ancey. Very abundant.

*Vallonia gracilicosta* Reinh. Much less common.

*Pupilla muscorum xerobia* Pils. Moderately abundant.

*Bifidaria pellucida hordeacella* (Pils.). Very abundant.

*Bifidaria pilsbryi* Sterki. Two specimens.

PUPILLA MUSCORUM XEROBIA n. subsp. Pl. II, figs. 1, 2.

Shell small, very short, composed of  $5\frac{1}{3}$  whorls, the last three forming the cylindric portion, those above forming a very short, obtuse cone; last whorl ascending a little, having a stout buff crest behind the thin, well-expanded lip. There is a small, short, parietal lamella but no other teeth. Length 2.5, diam. 1.5 mm.

Types no. 104005 A. N. S. P. from Duran, N. M. Others of the same lot in collections of L. E. Daniels and J. H. Ferriss.

Mr. Vanatta looked over the collection of the Academy and reports that he found the same small race from the following localities, all in Colorado. Trinidad, Pilsbry and Ferriss, 1906. Magnolia, Boulder Co., 8000 ft., D. McAndrews. Estes Park, E. H. Ashmun. Black Lake Creek, T. D. A. Cockerell. Near Golden, 7000 ft., E. E. Hand.

The length varies from 2.25 to 2.75 mm. in the lot taken at Duran.

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**A NEW FOSSIL VITRINELLA, FROM BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.**

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BY WILLIAM F. CLAPP.

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Through the kindness of Dr. H. W. Shimer of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology I have been able to examine some of the material he has received from the excavation for the Boylston street subway, Boston, Mass. The results of Dr. Shimer's investigations concerning the marine

fauna which formerly flourished in this region, will appear in a forthcoming publication of the Boston Society of Natural History. I therefore confine myself to the description of a new mollusk which occurs quite plentifully in the material submitted to me, referring those desiring further information regarding its age and the species with which it was found associated, to the publication mentioned above.

VITRINELLA SHIMERI, sp. nov. Pl. II, figs. 6, 7, 8.

Shell small, white, solid, depressed, whorls three, the ultimate rapidly enlarging; smooth above, beneath with about eighteen deeply incised lines radiating from the umbilical region. Suture distinct, umbilicus small, deep, aperture very oblique, circular, not modified by previous whorl, peritreme not continuous, modified to a more or less thin glaze on body whorl, outer lip simple, columellar lip greatly thickened in the direction of and encroaching on the umbilical region. Greatest diameter 1.25 mm., height .5 mm.

It is most readily distinguished from other Vitrinellas, by the radiating lines of the base, caused by the folding back of the thickened inner lip at regular stages of growth. Viewed from above the strongly curved continuation of the outer lip from the suture to the periphery, is more noticeable than in any related species.

The genus *Vitrinella* has been restricted by Miss Katharine J. Bush (Trans. Conn. Acad. Sci., vol. 10, 1897) to a group of "small more or less hyaline" shells, etc. While *V. shimeri* can not possibly be considered as hyaline it agrees well with all of the other characters of the genus. It is possible that its solid opaque appearance may be the result of the age of the specimens. No species of *Vitrinella* have been previously recorded from New England.

Associated with *Nassa obsoleta*, *Mulinia lateralis*, *Odostomia bisuturalis*, *Mya arenaria* and *Macoma balthica*. *V. shimeri* belonged to the "between tide" fauna of what were formerly the Charles River flats.

Type: Museum of Comparative Zoology, no. 2600. Paratypes: U. S. National Museum, Boston Society of Natural

History, Mass. Institute of Technology, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

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**OBSERVATIONS ON THE GENUS SYMPHYNOTA, LEA.**

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BY L. S. FRIERSON.

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In 1819 Rafinesque proposed the genus *Proptera*, and the only described species placed in it by him was the *Unio alata* Say, which has thus been accepted as type of the genus ever since. Evidently unaquainted with Rafinesque's writings at the time, Dr. Lea, ten years afterwards (1829) proposed an almost identical genus, *Symphynota*, and named as type, the same shell, *Unio alatus!* (Obs. vol. 1, page 38). The genus *Symphynota* therefore is a synonym, pure and simple, and Simpson's and other's use of the name, no doubt arose from overlooking the fact that Lea originally took *U. alatus* as type. This being so, those species placed in *Symphynota* by Simpson (Synopsis 1900, pages 662-666) must be placed in the genus *Lasmigona* Rafinesque, 1831. Type *L. costata* Rafinesque (1820).

In the May (1914) NAUTILUS, page 7, I proposed the term *Simpsonaias* for *Hemilastina*. This name has been preoccupied however, and for it I propose the term *Simpsoniconcha*, in honor of Mr. C. T. Simpson.

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**VOLVIDENS, NEW GENUS.**

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BY JOHN B. HENDERSON.

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I am often puzzled by the generic names applied by authors to many of the small species of Antillean land-shells; as in the case of the Cuban "*Thysanophora*" *tichostoma* Pfr., a fairly common species of the Matanzas and Havana Provinces. So far I have never succeeded in capturing a living specimen of this and therefore cannot seek the aid of an anatomist in deter-